



the koval group

January 17, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to take advantage of this public comment period and give you my thoughts on the Anti Trust case. To begin, this lawsuit is an embarrassment to American business. Microsoft is being forced to defend themselves for being a successful and profitable company, which is hallmark of what most people desire in a business. Now their successes and remarkable contributions are being punished because their competitors can come up with no other way to be successful on their own. This lawsuit is a huge waste of our tax dollars and I do not understand how it has been allowed to continue for so long.

I run a small manufacturing business and use Microsoft products to help run my business. Microsoft has done so much for consumers and businesses alike; they are completely responsible for creating our standardized computer systems of today. Nonetheless, I see this settlement as a great compromise in this controversy. Although most of the burden falls on Microsoft, the settlement certainly addresses all of the issues alleged in the lawsuits. Microsoft is handing over its own intellectual property, giving its competitors important source codes and server protocols. Agreements have been made with computer makers that will allow them to promote non-Microsoft products within the Windows operating system.

The stipulations of this settlement go far beyond what is just and serving to consumers. However, this settlement is necessary to help move our computer industry and economy forward. Please help in upholding this settlement.

Sincerely,



John Koval

cc: Senator Rick Santorum